

Demand County-Wide Narcotic Study

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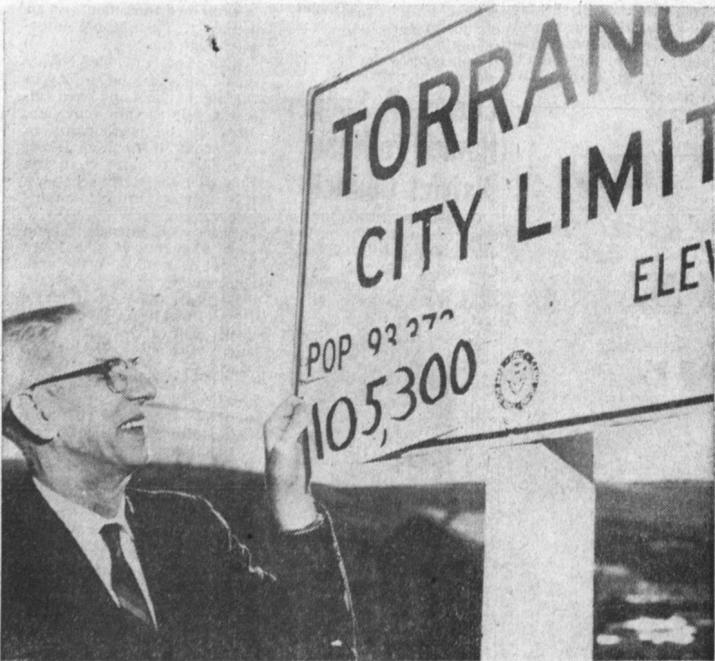
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EVIDENCE OF GROWTH—Councilman Jay Beasley smiles happily as he pastes new figure on one of Torrance's city limit signs. Evidence of the spectacular growth of the city during the past 10 years are out-dated signs posted all over the community. Signs

list the population of Torrance at anything from the 44,000 of a decade ago to the present figure of 104,000. Speedy growth of the city has outdistanced the departments responsible for replacing the signs.

Certi-Bond Bandit Suspect Arraigned

Hold Gunman Suspect on \$5250 Bail

A third suspect in the December 23 robbery of Certi-Bond store was arraigned Friday in Torrance Municipal Court and was held for a preliminary hearing February 3.

William Hugh Oxford, 26, of 1445 1/2 East Carson, a longshoreman, was arrested this week, following an intensive investigation of the holdup, which netted the suspects \$1300 in one dollar bills, by Torrance police.

Lt. Don Hamilton, of the Torrance PD detective bureau, said that evidence pointed to Oxford as the man who held the gun during the holdup. Two other suspects, picked up earlier, he said aided in the robbery and drove the getaway car.

SENTENCED FRIDAY

One of the suspects, Gary Mann, 23, of 26109 Crest Road, was sentenced this week to a five year term in prison for his part in an \$8,000 holdup of a Rolling Hills supermarket. Mann was given the term by Judge Maurice Sparling of Long Beach Superior Court.

Mann pleaded guilty to taking part in the robbery of Food Giant market, 28849 S. Western Ave., and also admitted the Certi-Bond holdup.

The convicted man readily admitted taking part in the two robberies and said the money from the market

was spent during a week in Las Vegas.

Another suspect, Robert Holbert, 28, of 212 E. 221st St., Torrance will be arraigned Feb. 3 in Long Beach Superior Court as Mann's accomplice in the holdups.

Investigating officers said that \$600 was found under a mattress in Holbert's home and believe that it is all that is left of the loot from the two robberies.

Both Holbert and Mann were identified by victims in the two establishments.

Walteria Leaders To Burn Mortgage Of Scout Hall

Walteria businessmen this week scheduled a dinner meeting for next Thursday, 7:30 p.m., at the Jumpin' Jack Restaurant to burn the last traces of indebtedness on a locally sponsored Scout headquarters, Scout Hall, located at 250th and Madison, was built through the cooperation of the Businessmen's Association.

Meeting will also serve to review activities of the association during the past year.

CITIZEN'S COMMITTEE

School Board Citizens Committee will meet this morning, 9:30 a.m., at the Steak Knife Restaurant in the South Bay shopping center, 182nd and Hawthorne Blvd.



YOUNGEST MUSICIAN—Teacher Ronald Large listens to the trumpeting of Buddy Whipple, 7, youngest of the students in Torrance School's instrumental music program.

Crenshaw Elementary School second grader is one of about 2000 elementary students who are taking up various musical instruments through the program.

(Story on page 2)

TREATED, RELEASED . . .

Three Persons Injured in Friday Night Auto Crash

Three persons were injured Friday night in a three car collision at the corner of Crenshaw and 250th St. in South Torrance, according to police and hospital records.

Taken to Little Company of Mary Hospital for treatment of facial lacerations were Vincent Benedetta, 30, 2622 Brian Ave., Torrance, and his wife, Irmgard, 27.

Also treated was Kenneth Henry Lister, 16, of 317 Via Anita, Torrance.

All of the injured were released following treatment.

Study Plans for New Library at Walteria Park

A special committee of the Torrance Park and Recreation Department this week proposed that a new Walteria library should be built as close to the southeast corner of the park as possible, but did not recommend parking for the facility be located at the recreation area.

Instead, the committee recommended that a picnic area between the library and tennis courts be developed.

Special committee was appointed last week by Chairman, Rev. H. M. Sippel to bring a recommendation on the request of the Library Commission to build a larger library at the park.

BREAKFAST MEETING

William E. Shawger, president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, yesterday reported that the regular membership breakfast meeting will be held Tuesday morning, 7:20 a.m., at the Masonic Lodge, 2326 Cabrillo Ave. Meetings are held each month at the same time and location.

Burglars Loot Torrance Home Of Furnishings

Thieves raided a Torrance home Thursday evening and made off with more than \$400 worth of furnishings and shop equipment, according to Torrance police records.

Joseph Corsario, 29, of 21019 Anza Ave., reported that the burglars knocked out a glass plate in a rear door to gain entry to the house.

Missing were interior draperies valued at \$200, an outboard motor, power saw, an air compressor, mattress and bicycle.

Corsario said that he was in the process of moving from the home when the burglary occurred.



LOCAL MANUFACTURER OPENS—Prominent public figures from the Torrance area took part in the official ribbon cutting last weekend of the new Vaga Bondia salesroom. Both sales and factory facilities are located on the premises at 21203 Figueroa St. Shown officiating at the ribbon cutting

are Hal Smith, president of the company, William E. Shawger, Chamber president, Betty Baker, Chamber secretary, Mayor Albert Ison of Torrance, and Jim Osborne, representing the real estate interest. Firm will be one of three new companies welcomed Tuesday at special Chamber breakfast.

STRONG STATEMENT . . .

Supervisor Demands Immediate Study of Cost to Taxpayers in Narcotics Cases

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn this week issued a strong statement supporting a request for a study to compute the heavy cost to Los Angeles County taxpayers because of narcotics.

In his opening statement, Hahn said, "As the members of the Board know, we are receiving strong support in behalf of our narcotics legislative program, AB 205 by Assemblyman Charles Chapel.

"What is needed now is a

special report from the C.A.O. that makes an effort to compute the very heavy expense to Los Angeles County taxpayers because of the narcotics problem. Members of the Legislature and taxpayers' groups have made inquiry as to the cost to our own taxpayers.

COOPERATION

"I would move that the chief administrative officer, the sheriff and the district attorney cooperate in furnishing to the Board of Supervisors, as soon as the same can reasonably be prepared, an estimate as to the direct cost to County taxpayers in the investigation, arrests, arraignment, prosecution and incarceration of narcotics addicts and peddlers covered in our County budget.

"Also an effort should be made to compute indirect costs that are reasonably related to the narcotics traffic being paid for by taxpayers in our County."

INCLUDE COSTS

Hahn said that what he had in mind is that the number of deputies assigned to the Sheriff's narcotics detail be included, the number of district attorney's office subordinates assigned to the prosecution of narcotics cases, transportation and other expense in the investigation and arrest of narcotics users and peddlers and some idea of the court costs involved.

"Many law enforcement

officers have stated," Hahn concluded, "that 50 percent of the major crimes committed in Los Angeles County are directly or indirectly attributed to the narcotics traffic. If these statements are true, every taxpayer, especially the small home owner, should be vigorously supporting the County's position to have the Legislature and the Governor enact strong narcotics laws not only to protect the youth of our community, but to reduce property taxes."

Torrance Heart Drive Chairman Names Leaders

Councilman J. A. Beasley Thursday announced selection of area chairmen to work with him on the Los Angeles County Heart Association drive in Torrance.

Peggy Borner of 26218 Dellos Drive is southern chairman. Mrs. O. McCaskey, 20110 S. Pruitt Drive, is chairman for the north Torrance area.

Fifteen volunteers will serve under each chairman. They will be announced at a kickoff luncheon at the Ambassador's Coconut Grove in Los Angeles Feb. 2.

There is no overhead in this independent drive, said Beasley. Even the lunch will be dutch, he said.

Beasley, who was incapacitated two months by a heart attack last year, requested the post of Torrance chairman for the Heart Association drive. He said the county agency reported 53% of deaths last year were attributed to heart ailments, the major killer of human beings.

State Allocates Funds for Local Street Repairs

The California Highway Commission this week allocated funds for several projects.

Los Angeles County, \$750,000 was allocated for widening from four lanes to six on Hawthorne Boulevard between U. S. 101 Alternate in Torrance and Manhattan Beach Boulevard in Lawndale, a distance of 5.7 miles. The widening will connect with the existing six-lane section north of Manhattan Beach Boulevard.

An additional \$587,000 to be added in varying amounts to the allocations for seven previously budgeted projects for median barriers on various freeways. The projects are on the Hollywood, San Bernardino, San Diego, Golden State, Harbor and Santa Ana Freeways. Since these projects were budgeted, it has been decided to add sign revisions and other miscellaneous work to the jobs. The allocation increases the total amount available for these projects from \$1,708,000 to \$2,293,000.

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